

What is Claimed is:

1. A method of treating or preventing heartburn symptoms in a human in need thereof, which method comprises administering to said human a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a proton pump inhibitor and an effective acid neutralizing amount of an alkali metal bicarbonate salt.

2. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the proton pump inhibitor is omeprazole, lansoprazole, pantoprazole, perprazole, or rabeprazole, or salts, isomers, enantiomers or derviatives thereof.

3. The method according to Claim 2 wherein the proton pump inhibitor is omeprazole.

4. The method according to Claim 3 wherein the dose of omeprazole is from about 10 to about 20mg.

5. The method according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 wherein the bicarbonate is sodium or potassium bicarbonate or a mixture thereof.

6. The method according to Claim 5 wherein the bicarbonate is sodium bicarbonate.

7. The method according to Claim 6 wherein the bicarbonate is administered in an ANC amount of about 18 to 40mEq.

8. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the proton pump inhibitor and alkali metal bicarbonate salt are administered in a solid unit dosage form.

8. The method according to Claim 8 wherein the dosage form is a compressed tablet.

9. The method according to Claim 8 wherein the dosage form is a capsule.

10. The method according to Claim 7 wherein the proton pump inhibitor is omeprazole and in a dosage range of from about 10 to about 20 mg.

11. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is a single unit dosage form administered in a volume of between approximately 10 ml and 20 ml of an aqueous solution.

- 5           12 The method according to Claim 11 wherein the dosage form is a sachet administered with water.

2001-04-10 10:10:10